

Supreme Court of California 350 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102-4797 www.courts.ca.gov/supremecourt

NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 15, 2015

Summary of Cases Accepted and Related Actions for Week of May 11, 2015

[This news release is issued to inform the public and the press of cases that the Supreme Court has accepted and of their general subject matter. The statement of the issue or issues in each case set out below does not necessarily reflect the view of the court, or define the specific issues that will be addressed by the court.]

#15-64 Baral v Schnitt, S225090. (B253620; 233 Cal.App.4th 1423; Los Angeles County Superior Court; BC475350.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed an order denying a special motion to strike in a civil action. This case presents the following issue: Does a special motion to strike under Code of Civil Procedure section 425.16 authorize a trial court to excise allegations of activity protected under the statute when the cause of action also includes meritorious allegations based on activity that is not protected under the statute?

#15-65 People v. Cisneros, S225197. (C071249; nonpublished opinion; Sacramento County Superior Court; 07F07014.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed the commitment after a judgment of not guilty by reason of insanity. The court ordered briefing deferred pending decision in People v. Conley, S211275 (#13-70), which presents the following issue: Does the Three Strikes Reform Act of 2012 (Pen. Code, §§ 667, subd. (e)(2)(C), 1170.12, subd. (c)(2)(C)), which reduces punishment for certain non-violent third-strike offenders, apply retroactively to a defendant who was sentenced before the Act's effective date but whose judgment was not final until after that date?

#15-66 People v. Crockett, S225198. (C074342; 234 Cal.App.4th 642; Shasta County Superior Court; 08F06372.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed an order denying a petition to recall sentence. The court ordered briefing deferred pending decision in People v. Chaney, S223676 (#15-13), and People v. Valencia, S223825 (#15-14), which present the following issue: Does the definition of "unreasonable risk of

danger to public safety" (Pen. Code, § 1170.18, subd. (c)) under Proposition 47 ("the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act") apply on retroactivity or other grounds to resentencing under the Three Strikes Reform Act of 2012 (Pen. Code, § 1170.126)?

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The Supreme Court of California is the state's highest court and its decisions are binding on all other California state courts. The court's primary role is to decide matters of statewide importance and to maintain uniformity in the law throughout California by reviewing matters from the six districts of the California Courts of Appeal and the fifty-eight county superior courts (the trial courts). Among its other duties, the court also decides all capital appeals and related matters and reviews both attorney and judicial disciplinary matters.